

Education and Workforce Development Cabinet KDLA's Beth Shields receives national archives award

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Contact Information:

FRANKFORT, Ky. (July 11, 2014) – Beth Shields, electronic records analyst at the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives (KDLA), is the 2014 recipient of the Society of American Archivists (SAA) Emerging Leader Award.

Created in 2011, SAA's Emerging Leader Award recognizes early career archivists who have completed archival work of broad merit, demonstrated significant promise for leadership, and performed commendable service to the archives profession.

SAA will honor the accomplishments and innovations of Shields and 24 other award recipients at the joint annual meeting of the Council of State Archivists (CoSA), the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA), and SAA in Washington, D.C., Aug. 10–16.

In her position at KDLA, Shields works to improve Kentucky's electronic records management policies and procedures. Her contributions help to ensure that Kentucky government records will be properly managed and preserved, regardless of format. As the co-chair of CoSA's State Electronic Records Initiative (SERI), Shields provides insight and coordination for this large and important collaborative project that has far-reaching implications for electronic records and digital preservation in all state and territorial archives.

The SAA Awards Committee noted that Shields brings “a unique combination of vision and in-depth knowledge of the archival enterprise, along with a collaborative spirit that clearly marks her as an emerging leader in (the archives) profession.”

Shields held a two-year internship at KDLA while she attended the University of Kentucky School of Library and Information Science before her graduation in 2004. She worked in reference at the Library of Virginia and in reference and oral history at the Kentucky Historical Society before returning to KDLA in a permanent staff position in 2009 to work with state and local government agencies on electronic records management. She has been involved with CoSA's State Electronic Records Initiative since its inception in July 2011, and received the CoSA President's Award in 2013 in recognition of her valuable contributions to the SERI initiative. Shields lives in Frankfort with her husband and two daughters.

KDLA provides equitable access to quality library and information resources and services, as well as helps public agencies ensure that legislatively mandated documentation of government

programs is created, efficiently maintained and made accessible For more information on KDLA resources, programs and services visit www.kdla.ky.gov.

For more information on CoSA, see www.statearchivists.org. For more information on CoSA's SERI project and grant initiatives, see <http://www.statearchivists.org/seri/>.